

a lens slidingly secured to said supporting means and performing focusing by varying the distance between said lens and the film; and

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housing means for housing said mounting means, said light projecting means, said light path shifting means, said scrolling means, said supporting means, and said focusing means,

wherein said supporting means is removably secured to said housing means such that said supporting means may be removed from said housing means to interchange films to be mounted on said mounting means.

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, Applicant requests favorable reconsideration of the above-identified application.

Claims 1, 5-7, 9-15 and 18-20 remain pending in this application. Claims, 1, 14, and 20 are independent. By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled Claims 3 and 17, and amended Claims 1, 5, 9, 14, and 20.

Initially, Applicant notes that the Office Action requires that new formal drawings be submitted in this application. Accompany this Amendment is a new set of formal drawings, incorporating the drawing changes approved by the Examiner.

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9-15 and 17-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over U.S. Patent No. 3,897,144 (Hicks) in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,811,892 (Holloway). Applicant traverses this rejection.

As recited in independent Claim 1, Applicant's invention is directed to an image projector having a film assembly, a motor, a light source, a lens, and a carriage. The

film assembly includes a periscope, having a first aperture, and a plurality of rollers on which a continuous film is to be mounted. The rollers are rotatably secured to the film assembly so as to mount the film to scroll in front of the first aperture of the periscope. The carriage supports the film assembly, the periscope, the plurality of rollers, and the motor. The carriage and lens are slidingly secured to each other such that a distance along the light path between the lens and the film mounted on the rollers is variable.

Independent Claim 14 is also directed to a image projector and recites a carriage generally similar to the carriage recited in independent Claim 1. In addition, as recited in Claim 14, the carriage is removably secured to a housing such that the carriage may be removed from the housing to interchange films to be mounted on the rollers.

As recited in independent Claim 20, Applicants invention is directed to an image projector having mounting means, light projecting means, light path shifting means, scrolling means, supporting means, focusing means, and housing means. The supporting means supports the mounting means, the light path shifting means, and the scrolling means. The supporting means is also removably secured to housing means. The focusing means includes a lens slidingly secured to the supporting means, and performs focusing by varying the distance between the lens and the film.

The Hicks patent is directed to a projection system used in a map display. The Office Action cites that patent as describing a periscope in front of which a film is scrolled and which shifts a light path in the projection system. Applicant, however, submits that the Hicks patent does not describe a carriage supporting a film assembly, periscope, plurality of rollers, and motor, with the carriage being slidingly secured to a lens.

The Holloway patent is directed to a projection system used to project scoring sheets for bowling. This patent is cited in the Office Action as describing a continuous film transport system utilizing a plurality of rollers. While the Holloway patent does describe a continuous film, Applicant submits that the patent suffers from the same deficiencies as the Hicks patent, inasmuch it also fails to describe the carriage of the present invention.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the Hicks and the Holloway patents, taken alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest at least the features of a carriage supporting a film assembly, a periscope, a plurality of rollers, and a motor, wherein the carriage and a lens are slidingly secured to each other such that distance along the light path between the lens and a film mounted on the film assembly is variable, as recited in independent Claims 1 and 14. In addition, Applicant submits that those patents fail to disclose or suggest at least the features of supporting means for supporting mounting means, light path shifting means, and scrolling means, wherein a lens is slidingly secured to the supporting means. Further, Applicant also submits that the Hicks and the Holloway patents, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or suggest that the carriage or supporting means is removably secured to a housing such that the carriage or supporting means may be removed from the housing to interchange films, as recited in Claims 14 and 20.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that independent Claims 1, 14, and 20 are distinguishable over the applied patents, whether those patents are taken alone or in combination, and requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

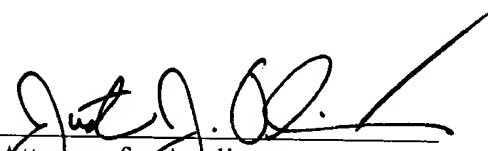
The remaining claims in the present application are dependent claims which depend from the independent claims discussed above, and thus are patentable for reasons similar to those discussed above with respect to the independent claims. In addition, each recites features of the invention still further distinguishing it from the applied documents. Applicant requests favorable and independent consideration thereof.

This Amendment After Final Rejection is an earnest attempt to advance prosecution and is believed to clearly place this application in condition for allowance. At the very least, Applicant believes that the Amendment reduces the number of issues for appeal. This Amendment was not earlier presented because Applicant earnestly believes that the prior Amendment placed the subject application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

Applicant submits that all outstanding matters have been attended to, and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An image projector, comprising:

a film assembly comprising a periscope, having a first aperture, and a plurality of rollers on which a continuous film is to be mounted, said rollers being rotatably secured to said film assembly so as to rotate about substantially parallel axes [said film assembly being configured] so as to mount [a continuous] the film to scroll in front of said first aperture of said periscope;

a motor for scrolling the film around said periscope and in front of said first aperture;

a light source projecting light through said periscope and portions of the film positioned in front of said first aperture of said periscope; [and]

a lens for focusing the light projected through the film and said periscope[.];

a carriage supporting said film assembly, said periscope, said plurality of rollers, and said motor,

wherein said [film assembly] carriage and said lens are slidingly secured to each other such that a distance along the light path between said lens and the film mounted on said [film assembly] rollers is variable, and focusing of an image on the film projected by said image projector is performed by varying the distance between said lens and the film.

5. (Amended) An image projector according to Claim [3] 1, wherein one of said plurality of rollers is rotated by said motor, causing the film, when mounted, to scroll about the rollers in directions substantially perpendicular to the axes of rotation of said rollers.

9. (Amended) An image projector according to Claim 5, further comprising a housing containing said carriage, said film assembly, said lens, said motor and said light source, [wherein] with said light source and said lens [are] being secured in said housing; and

means for varying the position of said [film assembly] carriage with respect to said lens and said housing,

wherein said carriage, supporting said film assembly, is removably secured to said housing.

14. (Amended) An image projector, comprising:

a film assembly comprising a periscope and a plurality of rotatably mounted rollers, said plurality of rollers mounting a continuous film so as to scroll about said periscope, in directions substantially perpendicular to axes of rotation of said rollers, such that portions of the film pass in front of a first aperture of said periscope;

a motor for rotating at least one of said rollers so as to cause the film to scroll around said periscope;

a light source projecting light through (i) the portions of the film positioned in front of said first aperture, as the film scrolls past said first aperture and across the light path, and (ii) through said periscope; [and]

a lens for focusing the light projected through the film and said periscope[.];

a carriage for supporting said film assembly, said periscope, said plurality of rollers, and said motor, with said film assembly and motor being secured to said carriage; and

a housing containing said carriage, said film assembly, said plurality of rollers, said lens, said light source, and said motor,

wherein said [film assembly] carriage and said lens are slidingly secured to each other such that a distance along the light path between said lens and the film mounted on said film assembly is variable, and focusing of an image on the film projected by said image projector is performed by varying the distance between said lens and the film,

and said carriage is removably secured to said housing such that said carriage may be removed from said housing to interchange films to be mounted on said plurality of rollers.

20. (Amended) An image projector, comprising:

mounting means for mounting a continuous film;

light projecting means for projecting light through portions of the film mounted on said mounting means;

light path shifting means for shifting the light path of the light projected by said light projecting means before or after the light has been projected through the portions of the scrolling film;

scrolling means for scrolling the continuous film mounted on said mounting means around said light path shifting means and across the light path of said light projecting means; [and]

supporting means for supporting said mounting means, said light path shifting means, and said scrolling means;

focusing means for focusing the light projected through the scrolling film by said light projecting means and shifted by said light path shifting means, so as to project a scrolling image formed by a pattern on the scrolling film, said focusing means comprising a lens slidably secured to said [mounting] supporting means and performing focusing by varying the distance between said lens and the film; and

housing means for housing said mounting means, said light projecting means, said light path shifting means, said scrolling means, said supporting means, and said focusing means,

wherein said supporting means is removably secured to said housing means such that said supporting means may be removed from said housing means to interchange films to be mounted on said mounting means.